

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:
  - detecting attachment of a shared resource to a server;
  - querying the shared resource for a share indicator; and
  - applying share allocation defined by the share indicator if the share indicator is present.
2. The method of Claim 1 wherein querying comprises:
  - determining if a share directory is present on the shared resource; and
  - determining if a share file is in the share directory.
3. The method of Claim 2 wherein queuing further comprises:
  - determining if a checksum file exists in the share directory; and
  - validating a checksum in the checksum file.
4. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
  - creating a share indicator on the shared resource if the share indicator is not present.
5. The method of Claim 4 wherein creating comprises:
  - creating a share directory on the shared resource; and
  - creating a share file in the share directory.
6. The method of Claim 5 wherein creating further comprises:
  - creating a checksum file in the share directory; and

3 writing a checksum in the checksum file.

1 7. A computer readable storage media containing executable computer  
2 program instructions which when executed cause a digital processing system to  
3 perform a method comprising:

4 detecting attachment of a shared resource to a server;  
5 querying the shared resource for a share indicator; and  
6 applying share allocation defined by the share indicator if the share  
7 indicator is present.

1 8. The computer readable storage media of Claim 7 which when executed  
2 cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:

3 determining if a share directory is present on the shared resource; and  
4 determining if a share file is in the share directory.

1 9. The computer readable storage media of Claim 8 which when executed  
2 cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:

3 determining if a checksum file exists in the share directory; and  
4 validating a checksum in the checksum file.

1 10. The computer readable storage media of Claim 7 which when executed  
2 cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:

3 creating a share indicator on the shared resource if the share indicator  
4 is not present.

1 11. The computer readable storage media of Claim 10 which when  
2 executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:  
3 creating a share directory on the shared resource; and  
4 creating a share file in the share directory.

1 12. The computer readable storage media of Claim 11 which when  
2 executed cause a digital processing system to perform a method further comprising:  
3 creating a checksum file in the share directory; and  
4 writing a checksum in the checksum file.

1 13. A system comprising:  
2 a processor;  
3 a non-volatile storage unit coupled to the processor, the non-volatile  
4 storage unit to store a descriptor table having an entry identifying share allocation  
5 for a known storage free device; and  
6 a memory coupled to the processor to store a shared resource table to  
7 identify share allocation of shared devices coupled to the system.

1 14. The system of Claim 13 further comprising:  
2 a writable shared resource coupled to the processor, the writable shared  
3 resource containing a share directory.

1 15. The system of Claim 14 wherein the share directory contains:  
2 a share file; and  
3 a check sum file.

1           16.    The system of Claim 13 wherein the processor ages out the entry if the  
2 known device is not present for a period of time.

1           17.    The system of Claim 13 further comprising:  
2                    an unwritable shared resource wherein the processor detects  
3 connection of the unwritable shared resource and automatically adds an entry to the  
4 descriptor table responsive to the connection.

1           18.    The system of Claim 13 further comprising:  
2                    a writable shared resource wherein the processor detects connection of  
3 the writable shared resource and automatically adds an entry to the shared resources  
4 table responsive to the connection.

1           19.    A method comprising:  
2                    maintaining a descriptor table on a server in a non-volatile memory  
3 for a plurality of known devices;  
4                    detecting attachment of a device to the server;  
5                    determining if the device is one of the plurality of known devices; and  
6                    applying a share allocation from the descriptor table upon attachment  
7 if the device is one of the plurality of known devices.

1           20.    The method of Claim 19 further comprising:  
2                    aging out entries from the descriptor table after a corresponding known  
3 device has been detached for a period of time.